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Carter

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INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION CONCLUDES MEETING

FLO32217Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2125 GMT 3 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Cancun, Mexico, 3 Mar (ANSA-INFORMEX)--The Inter-American Press Association--IAPA-- has ended its semiannual meeting with the unanimous approval of a resolution to censure the UNESCO measures to "create an international doctrine which would allow governments to control the news media."

A separate resolution was approved which calls for greater freedom of the press in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, the Dominican Republic [as received], Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru. With regard to Mexico, the concern of the (?IAPA)-- which met in this Mexican beach resort area--is with a constitutional amendment which states that "the right to be informed should be guaranteed by the state." It is feared that such amendment will allow the government to interfere with the freedom of the press.

The IAPA also stated its concern with the fact that more and more governments on the continent are monopolizing the distribution of newsprint, "which gives them indirect control over the press."

According to the IAPA, there are presently only six countries which respect the freedom of the press: Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, the Netherlands Antilles, Venezuela and the United States.

CLARIN: JUSTICIALIST PARTY BEGINS REORGANIZATION

FY281636Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 27 Feb 78 p 8 FY

[Text] The creation of a "general staff" and a "joint general staff"--these being the exact expressions used by the Justicialists--is one event which has taken place in the midst of the somnolent atmosphere which surrounds the traditional political parties.

According to party sources, the decision to reorganize the higher echelons of the party leadership was reshaped in the last few days.

The "general staff" will be made up of Angel Robledo, Italo Luder, Nelida de Demarco, Miguel Unamuno, Manuel de Anchorena and Deolindo Bittel, who is currently first vice president of the Justicialist Supreme Council.

The word is that these leaders are seeking to concentrate the efforts of the Justicialist leadership on the future reorganization of the party.

Nelida de Demarco will be the "personal representative" of former President Maria Estela Martinez, whose preventive custody was ordered by the court last week.

In the meantime a "joint general staff" will be created from representatives of the "women's branch," the "political branch," and the union sector--specifically, the "committee of 25" which coordinates the leaders of intervened and nonintervened unions.

According to reports, the Justicialist Supreme Council met on Friday night to launch administrative reorganization. The law which bans political activities does allow implementation of administrative tasks.

Strictly speaking, the subjects discussed were administrative matters, although it is presumed that the meeting also analyzed the attitude of the "antiverticalist" sector, which seems prepared to clash with Maria Estela Martinez. It is also believed that the drawing up of a broad statement on foreign policy was discussed.

Reorganization Denied

FY010149Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1900 GMT 28 Feb 78 FY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 28 Feb--Several Peronist leaders denied today that they have created a "general staff" and a "joint general staff" grouping all the leaders from the (?various) Peronist factions to reorganize the party which was in power until March 1976.

INTERIOR MINISTRY RELEASES NAMES OF 237 PRISONERS

FY032337Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2315 GMT 3 Mar 78 FY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 3 Mar--The Interior Ministry released this afternoon a list of 237 men who as of 22 February were being held at the disposal of the executive branch in prison No 6 in Rawson, Chubut. This list, the fifth released by the Interior Ministry, brings to 2,671 the number of names of detainees of both sexes which have been published.

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B O L I V I A

C 1

ADRIAZOLA SCORES COMMENTS BY PAPER ON SEA OUTLET

FY031730Y La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 28 Feb 78 p 9 FY

[Text] Foreign Minister Oscar Adriazola, when remarking on a newspaper commentary regarding talks with Chile, requested the press to maintain "an exact and objective, thorough and well-based judgment on the maritime negotiations."

A statement issued by the minister maintains that the government is not and has not been in favor of a territorial exchange with Chile and that remarks which are being made regarding that subject have no foundation. Adriazola's statement says:

"A short time ago, on 14 February to be exact, I made a long statement and said the following in one of its paragraphs: 'I wish to assert categorically, in case it has been forgotten, that the Bolivian Government did not consider any conditions involving compensation in its proposal of 26 August, but limited itself to stating that it would be willing to consider conditions which could be part of a bilateral agreement.'

"I further pointed out that 'the Chilean Government replied through a formal note dated 19 December 1975 in which it included a demand for territorial exchange and other conditions.'

"In another paragraph of the same statement I said: 'The tendency has been to discuss Chilean points of view as if they were also shared by the Bolivian Government.'

"In view of the foregoing clarifying statement, it is therefore hard to understand how an editorial, published in a morning paper in this country, should maintain that 'the Bolivian public still lacks exact knowledge whether the territorial exchange was a Bolivian offer.'

"Apart from the fact that clarifying statements have been made, it would be illogical to demand that Chile withdraw its demand for a territorial exchange with Bolivia, as was clearly and categorically done on 24 December 1975, if the exchange had been a Bolivian notion.

"I believe that a newspaper writer, particularly if he is in charge of editorials, should consult all sources before venturing comments on a matter, especially if those sources had given an explanation only a few days earlier and in writing.

"I maintain that an exact and objective, thorough and well-based judgment on the maritime negotiations will be reached only in this manner. Furthermore, a short time ago I also stated that nothing has been done behind the backs of the people and I wish to confirm this fact on this occasion.

FORCES CHIEF SAYS COUNTRY CANNOT AFFORD NEW ARMS

FY281624Y La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 26 Feb 78 p 13 FY

[Text] Maj Gen Victor Gonzalez Fuentes, chief of the joint staff of the armed forces, has stated that the economic and social development of the country has top priority and "we cannot divert our resources" to purchase the large sums of arms mentioned in a report from Washington.

According to this report, \$11.6 million has been assigned to Bolivia to purchase arms. This amount, which was the "official" value assigned by the United States to these purchases, was divided in the following manner: \$5 million for "official purchases"; \$6 million worth of "possible loans"; and \$600,000 for "private purchases." These figures are included in the U.S. fiscal year which will begin on 1 July [as published]. But they are still subject to the total or partial approval of the U.S. Congress.

Gonzalez stated that there is no doubt that the supreme command is permanently concerned over the maintenance of the effectiveness of the armed forces, and that its plans include periodic renewal of obsolescent material. This concern is present in all armed forces, even though some of them are engaged in arms races and others are merely interested in modernizing their material in line with the times.

General Gonzalez indicated that the report from Washington merely gives an idea of the U.S. capability to sell arms and that the figures are simply possible purchases. He emphasized, however, that Bolivia is applying all of its resources to the development and improvement of the country and little is left for the purchase of arms.

THREE PARTIES ASK FOR ELECTORAL RECOGNITION

PY070128Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 6 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Victor Paz Estenssoro's National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], Walter Guevara Arce's Authentic Revolutionary Party [PRA], and the Social Christian Party have requested legal recognition by the electoral court, according to official reports disclosed here today. Julio Mantilla, the court's president, said the request made by these three political entities would be analyzed once the court's members returned to the capital.

If the request made by these three groups is approved, there will be a total of seven political groups eligible for registration for the election. The Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB], two factions of the MNR and the Socialist Party have already been recognized.

ENVOY TO U.S. LEAVES WITH MESSAGE ON TIN FOR CARTER

PY041653Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1612 GMT 4 Mar 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Mar--It was reported here that the new Bolivian ambassador to the U.S. Government, the mining industrialist Carlos Iturralde, left by plane for Washington today.

Iturralde is carrying out "a confidential mission for President Hugo Banzer to persuade his colleague Jimmy Carter that the United States should not interfere with Bolivian interests in the International Tin Council [ITC]," it was reported here today.

Bolivia has officially stated that the United States is the leader of the industrialized nations against the tin-producing countries. Malaysia, Bolivia, Indonesia and Thailand are the world's four leading tin producers.

GEISEL DISCUSSES NUCLEAR POLICY, CARTER TRIP

PY070052Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 6 Mar 78 PY

[Text] In an interview granted to a German television while he was still in Brazil, President Geisel discussed the following issues: human rights, President Carter's visit to Brazil in April and the Brazilian economic miracle.

Asked about the concern expressed by international organizations charging Brazil with having violated human rights, the president said that this issue is today a fad throughout the world. He noted, however, that not everyone has an adequately broad idea of human rights, or is aware of the rules and norms guiding them. He said: Here in Brazil we are very concerned with human rights and, despite the charges that are made against us, I believe that Brazil can do well in the area of human rights in the world context.

The president said that both his government and that of his predecessors regarded education as part of human rights. He said: Brazil today has very few illiterates and the level of education is very promising. There are now approximately 1.2 million university students. We are concerned over the people's health, we are concerned over food and we are concerned over supplying jobs.

He added: In view of our population growth, we have to create approximately 1.5 million jobs per year. All this is part of human rights. Of course, there are also political rights, which we also respect, such as freedom of thought and freedom of expression. What we do not accept is terrorism and subversion. We cannot accept the disruption of the tranquillity of the people, who need to work to achieve development. The government takes action against phenomena of this nature to guarantee tranquillity and harmony within the country.

Asked if President Carter's visit to Brazil could cause any change in the Brazilian nuclear policy, President Geisel said: We will be very happy to receive him because Brazil and the United States are traditional good friends. He added that Carter's visit will be instrumental in exchanging ideas and opinions, and among these ideas and opinions the nuclear question will no doubt be included, a matter on which the United States and Brazil disagree, primarily in the manner in which the issue is to be handled.

After pointing out Brazil's shortage of petroleum and coal and its need for nuclear energy, the president stated that Brazil cannot depend on the good will of a supplier of enriched uranium. There are some who claim that this will allow Brazil to produce nuclear weapons. This is not true. First, Brazil is and has always been a peaceful country, and considering its position in the world from the weaponry viewpoint, Brazil can be considered one of the least armed countries. Second, we have agreed to comply with every safeguard required by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], headquartered in Vienna, which is a UN-related organization in charge of controlling and avoiding nuclear proliferation. He said that the Brazilian-FRG agreement was approved by the IAEA, by the Soviet Union, the United States and other countries.

Commenting on the Brazilian miracle, the president said that he did not believe in what has been said about this matter. He said: Brazil does not believe in miracles. What Brazil has been doing during the past 15 years is just work: work to achieve development, to create more wealth and, consequently, to provide the people with greater well-being. Pursuant to a policy adopted by the government in 1964, the country has a development program. This is an integrated development which includes the economic, political, and social sectors.

NUCLEAR POLLUTION CONTROL PACT TO BE SIGNED

PY031428Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Mar 78 p 19 PY

[Excerpts] The Special Secretariat for the Environment (SEMA) and the National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN) will sign an agreement on prevention of environmental pollution at the Angra I, II and III nuclear plants. Under the agreement, CNEN will be in charge of nuclear aspects of pollution and SEMA of the non-nuclear aspects such as the heating of water or other problems resulting from the operation of the plants.

SEMA Secretary Paulo Nogueira Neto said that there is no use discussing now if Angra Dos Reis is the best location for the plants, because construction there is an accomplished fact. He then explained that he was less concerned about ecological problems in Angra Dos Reis than about those created, for instance, by a rocksalt plant located scarcely 3 km from the city of Maceio [Alagoas State] because this plant works with chlorine, a highly toxic substance and potentially much more dangerous.

The SEMA secretary warned that not only the economic aspects of nuclear projects must be contemplated, such as their proximity to consumer centers to facilitate connections with existing transmission systems and to refuse transmission line losses, but growing importance must be given to ecological considerations particularly regarding the safety of nearby population.

BRAZIL MAY OBTAIN ENRICHED URANIUM FROM BRITAIN

PY010237Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Feb 78 p 7 PY

[By O ESTADO special correspondent Italo Ramos]

[Excerpts] Great Britain reportedly has been chosen to supply enriched uranium to Brazil if the Netherlands persists in its position. This information was released by a high source in the FRG Research and Technology Ministry, who also noted that the talks with the Netherlands will be carried on as long as long as a chance for agreement exists.

A 10-minute conversation with Hans-Hilger Haunschild, state secretary in the Research and Technology Ministry, and a little longer meeting with some of his closest advisers were sufficient to lead one to the conclusion that there is a virtual certainty in the FRG that it will be extremely difficult to overcome the present confrontation between the FRG and the Netherlands.

As of yesterday every hope of reaching an agreement was based on the talks scheduled for coming weeks between the FRG and Netherlands officials.

In reply to an observation that the Netherlands is strongly determined to maintain its position, Haunschild merely said: "Determination is also a positive feature of our character." He declined to make any prediction as to what could happen if the two parties do not reach an agreement. He merely shrugged his shoulders when he was asked about a possible rupture should the impasse persist. He did not even dare to speculate on the type of rupture which might take place.

Although Haunschild did not want to reveal a major victory in the FRG-Netherlands confrontation, the news was leaked by one of his advisers that Great Britain could largely profit from a lack of agreement. According to the adviser, Great Britain reportedly has been chosen to supply enriched uranium to Brazil if the Netherlands "persists in its position." Such persistence could be damaging only to the Netherlands itself.

COMPLETION OF NUCLEAR PLANT DELAYED

PY021445Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Mar 78 p 6 PY

[Excerpt] Mines and Energy Minister Shigeaki Ueki admitted yesterday in Rio de Janeiro that there will be a delay in the construction of the second nuclear plant in Angra Dos Reis, but that it will cause "little trouble." The problem resulted from the existence of unremovable rock formations on the construction site, thus demanding more foundation piles than had originally been planned in order to provide the necessary stability for plant construction.

BRAZIL TO PRODUCE ROCKETS FOR WEST GERMANY

PY021453Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Mar 78 PY

[Text] West Germany will stop importing British, Canadian and U.S.-made atmospheric research rockets and will import only Brazilian-made rockets. It will import Sonda-e rockets which Brazil will mass produce using FRG technology which is now being evaluated by the Aerospace Technical Center in Sao Jose Dos Campos.

This may be one of the most important aspects of the scientific and technological cooperation agreement between Brazil and the FRG to be signed by President Geisel during his visit to the FRG.

In exchange the Germans will supply their air and space technology to Brazilian scientists, it was reported by Col Hugo de Oliveira Piva, director of the Air and Space Activities Institute of the Aerospace Technical Center.

O ESTADO REVIEWS SCHEDULE OF CARTER TRIP

PY011930Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Feb 78 p 3 PY

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "Jimmy Carter's Trip"]

[Excerpts] On 24 March President Carter will make a 24-hour visit to Brazil to discuss the great subjects which have lately disturbed the relations between the two largest countries on the continent: nuclear nonproliferation and human rights. According to Itamaraty's official communique, the U.S. President also intends to review with President Geisel North-South relations, economic development problems in general and questions of regional security. Such a broad agenda cannot be examined in depth in such a short time--a fact which by itself indicates that the discussions will be aimed at probing rather than at arriving at conclusions.

Although the official program of the visit has not yet been made public, Brzezinski's statement announcing President Carter's trip to Venezuela, Brazil and Nigeria gave us the impression that during his visit to the Brazilian Congress (if there is one), the U.S. President will not deliver the usual protocol speech--or if he does, it will not have the same importance as his speeches to the Venezuelan and Nigerian congresses. This would only indicate that Carter does not want to say anything that might create an incident in the relations between the two countries, considering that, if the U.S. President speaks to the Congress gathered to pay him homage, he could not fail to touch on some topics displeasing to the Brazilian Government. Whatever Carter needs to say in order to establish his political positions, he will no doubt say to the Venezuelan congress, before arriving in Brasilia--there, he will do so with the conviction of addressing the Congress of one of the few democracies on the continent, the virtues of which have long been exalted, if not exaggerated, by the State Department's liberal circles.

Carter's concern over Cuban involvement in the Horn of Africa--to the point where it has halted his policy of rapprochement with Havana--will certainly be brought up in discussions to be held in Brasilia on 29 March. Although Brzezinski's assertion that "Brazil has been playing an increasingly important role in international questions" may have been made as a diplomatic gesture, our ever more noticeable presence in Africa, particularly the efforts of the Geisel government to maintain economic and cultural links with Portuguese-speaking African countries lends credence, as far as the United States is concerned, to the Brazilian Government opinion concerning the area across the South Atlantic.

DISAGREEMENT WITH U.S. ON TAXATION CONTINUES

PY041615Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 3 Mar 78 p 25 PY

[Summary] Brasilia--Meetings of the advisory group from the Finance Ministry-Treasury Department concluded yesterday and were characterized by complete disagreement between Brazil and the United States concerning the two main negotiating issues: the incentives code and the elimination of dual taxation.

While admitting differences, U.S. negotiator Gary Hufbauer played down the importance of his mission by saying that he was here only to gather opinions and not to make any decisions. According to Hufbauer the differences separating the two countries are: U.S. opposition to a "damages clause" in the GATT--The United States would prefer damage claims to be handled by national committees and not by a GATT committee as proposed by Brazil--and U.S. disagreement with the preferential treatment given developing nations. With reference to the agreement to eliminate dual taxation, there are three basic differences preventing its approval: the United States does not agree with the "tax sharing" exemption; the United States does not accept Brazil's taxation of royalties and technical assistance at the same rate as dividends; and the United States considers Brazil's taxation of profit remittance at 25 percent to be too severe.

Despite the Brazilian group's efforts to show the talks were positive, both delegations had to admit that there was no substantial progress and that the impasse concerning the more important issues between the United States and Brazil continues. Hufbauer's own opinion was that a damages clause is plausible so long as its regulations are very clearly defined and that it could be included within an incentives agreement. However, he made it clear that the U.S. Government is still studying the matter.

The first phase of research by the International Commerce Commission concerning Brazilian textile exports will be concluded by May. However, the commission will be ready to disclose its definite recommendations in November. Ruffbauer assured that other than textiles, there are no other Brazilian products under threat of investigation by the United States.

The U.S. negotiator preferred to decline comment on the trade deficit between Brazil and the United States, saying that relations between the two should be seen in broad perspective.

Francisco Dorneles, head of the Brazilian negotiators, stated to the press that there would be no room for retreat by Brazilian issues such as legislation concerning profit taxation and preferential treatment for developing nations.

O ESTADO CALLS GEISEL'S MESSAGE 'INCOMPETENT'

PY040350Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 3 Mar 78 p 3 PY

[From the "Notes and Information" page by V.B.C.: "Message Overlooks Essential Issues and Reflects Political Incompetence"]

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro--Through his message to Congress President Geisel has introduced a highly disturbing factor in the long, slow and still undefined process toward implementing political reforms.

His unnecessary extensive defense of the April "package," his useless effort to defend what cannot be defended with clearly weak arguments should not be regarded as a boastful action, as a challenge to an enemy who still remains very quiet, but rather as a sign of stubbornness. Obviously, there was no need to stir up the April rubbish in his message. Perhaps a slight reference to this matter would have been enough. But when everyone, including ARENA and MDB members, pretended to have forgotten that accident for the sake of setting the future on the right course, the message revived a discussion which causes discomfort to the government and embarrasses the opposition, which will soon be invited to participate in the dialog.

Even though these are important aspects, they are of secondary significance. The serious thing is the ineptness conveyed through this action.

This government has openly undertaken a political plan of relaxation. Therefore, basic commonsense should tell the president that he should emphasize his belated democratic purposes, even to obtain electoral support, a few months before the initiation of a campaign which is eliciting great concern from both President Geisel and his successor, Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo. Yet, at this very time the message, in bad taste, overlooked essential issues and revived a discussion which was virtually considered closed by tacit agreement of interests and wisdom. And it is this gross, basic, blunt error which causes the government's message to be considered as a document which materializes political incompetence.

EMBRAER, PRATT WHITNEY CANADA TO PRODUCE PT-6 ENGINE

PY061429Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Mar 78 p 18 PY

[Text] Brasilia--A technical exchange program between EMBRAER and Pratt Whitney of Canada, with financial assistance from the Canadian Government, will be implemented within 3 weeks. The program foresees the transfer of technology to produce PT-6 engine components for export to Canada. Then PT-6 engines assembled with these Brazilian-made parts will be exported to Brazil.

The transfer of technology was agreed to some days ago, when Low and Sullivan, president and vice president respectively of Pratt Whitney, were in Brazil to talk with EMBRAER'S superintendent, Col Osiris Silva, with Air Force Minister Araripe Macedo, and with the industry and commerce minister.

The possibility of installing a PT-6 engine assembly plant in Brazil was discarded because Brazilian needs for Bandeirante planes--200 engines per year--does not economically justify such an undertaking.

For this reason, Pratt Whitney offered to buy additional PT-6 engine components manufactured in Brazil. After negotiations between Pratt Whitney and FAR Research and Development Director Brig Gen Hugo de Miranda e Silva, the decision was made to survey those Brazilian companies capable of manufacturing PT-6 engine parts for export to Canada.

In 1977, Pratt Whitney imported [from Brazil] \$250,000 worth of components to manufacture PT-6 engines. The new technical assistance agreement is aimed at raising the level of sophistication in the manufacture of PT-6 engine parts.

SIX MORE VICTIMS OF DEATH SQUAD ALLEGED

PY021840Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1602 GMT 2 Mar 78 FY

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro, 2 Mar--It was reported here today that the bullet-riddled bodies of six victims of the death squad were found during the last 24 hours in Rio de Janeiro suburbs. With these six new victims, the total number of persons killed by the death squad this year has reached 74, according to the local press. All of the victims showed signs of torture inflicted by the assassins, according to reports published in the press.

MISTREATMENT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS DENIED

PY022045Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Mar 78 p 9 FY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--Presidential press adviser Col Toledo Camargo yesterday said that any report about inhuman treatment of political prisoners in Brazil was "an aggression and a lie." He was speaking in response to statements by spokesmen of the German branch of Amnesty International about the mistreatment of "more than 200" Brazilian prisoners. The presidential adviser stated "every one of the persons who is in prison has been judged and has had the right to a defense in line with the appropriate court procedures." He admitted that there are people in prison "for political reasons," but refused to admit that they could be classed as political prisoners. "In the case of the woman who was arrested carrying subversive pamphlets, she was charged in line with a law in effect long before the arrest took place. I acknowledge that the reasons for arresting her were political. It is obvious that one distributes subversive pamphlets only for political reasons. Thus, there are two different interpretations of what a political prisoner is. Mine is that a political prisoner is someone who goes to jail without trial without any legal reason, as happens in many countries," he added.

He said: "A person who robs a bank to steal money for a revolutionary organization is not guilty of a political crime. This person robs, steals and kills for political reasons, but to class something like this a political crime is stretching things a little bit too far."

Referring to the [Amnesty International] report, he said it is not true that political prisoners in Brazil are being treated inhumanly.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON LETELIER CASE

Government Requests Special Judge

PY061755Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1651 GMT 6 Mar 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 6 Mar--It was reported here that the Chilean Government today requested the courts to appoint a special judge to investigate the alleged involvement of two Chileans in the assassination of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier. The request was submitted to the Supreme Court by the foreign minister under express orders from President Augusto Pinochet. The document issued here today states the military government's firm determination is to "grant all the cooperation that the case demands." The document adds: "From last-minute reports, investigations carried out on the case and from what has been reported by the mass media, there is reportedly a possibility that two official passports had been authorized and issued."

Suspect Identified as American

PY062013Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1705 GMT 6 Mar 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 6 Mar--It was officially announced here today that President Augusto Pinochet has asked the judicial branch to appoint a special judge to thoroughly investigate the charge that two Chileans were involved in the assassination of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier.

Meanwhile, the Supreme court judge began a study of the attorney's report on a request of a U.S. court in the District of Columbia asking Chilean officials to question Juan Williams Rose and Alejandro Romeral, who were said to be members of the Chilean Armed Forces.

The Chilean press gave extensive coverage to the case yesterday and today. It published pictures of Williams and Romeral and, based on readers' reports, maintained that one of these men might be an American citizen.

Santiago's EL MERCURIO reported that its sources claim that the picture of Williams Rose "really belongs to a character known in Chile as Michael Townley, allegedly an American citizen."

Press investigators found that Townley, who lived in Chile in 1973, was charged by the communist newspaper PURO CHILE with killing a painter in early 1973 during a violent clash which destroyed the Channel 5 station at the Catholic University of Talcahuano.

The EL MERCURIO chain newspaper ULTIMAS NOTICIAS also noted today that Juan Williams Rose and Michael Townley may be the same person. ULTIMAS NOTICIAS stated that Townley, whose picture has been extensively published in the local press, was involved with the rightist "Fatherland and Freedom Movement" but that since he was also involved with members of the extreme left, it is believed that he was a double agent. ULTIMAS NOTICIAS maintains that Townley was politically active during the Popular Unity [UP] Government, "but until now no one has been able to establish which side he was really working for."

Details on Suspected American

PA061958Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1717 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Mar (EFE)--A U.S. citizen identified as Michael Vernon Townley Welch was accused Monday by the Chilean Socialist Party of assassinating Orlando Letelier in Washington.

According to the source, this is the real name and nationality of Juan Williams Rose, who was identified in the United States as an agent of the National Intelligence Department (DINA) in charge of killing the former minister and Socialist diplomat.

According to a document released here today, Townley has been living in Chile as an electronic technician since 1957 and was implicated in the killing of Jorge Tomas Enriquez Gonzalez, a painter, in March of 1973. It adds that the U.S. citizen currently lives in Chile "with his spouse, Ines Calleja, leader of the Fatherland and Freedom nationalist front, who was recently awarded aliterary prize by the newspaper EL MERCURIO. Townley is the father of two children.

The Chilean Socialist Party reports that Townley was employed by the "Investors Overseas Service" firm headed by Robert Vesco, whose activities caused a financial scandal. The party adds that after leaving Chile following Enriquez' assassination, Townley reappeared in Santiago shortly before the September 1973 coup against Salvador Allende's government. The source notes the improbability that, despite the Chilean passport used, Townley's identity has gone unnoticed by the U.S. authorities.

Finally, the source states that Townley "is the first link in a chain" which will lead to the extreme rightist groups, to the supporters of former President Eduardo Frei and to the repressive apparatus of the Chilean Government.

Suspects' True Names Given

PA062324Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2132 GMT 6 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, 6 Mar--Two militants of the Chilean rightwing Fatherland and Freedom movement have been accused of being involved in the assassination of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier by the evening newspaper LA SEGUNDA. According to the newspaper, a member of the EL MERCURIO press chain, Michael Townley and Rafael Undurraga, both electrical engineers, were apparently involved in the assassination. Both traveled to the United States in August 1976 with visas requested from the U.S. Embassy in Santiago by the Chilean Foreign Ministry, according to that diplomatic source.

A U.S. court recently asked Chilean courts to interrogate Chilean citizens Juan Williams Rose and Alejandro Romeral Jara regarding the assassination. According to the paper, it was established that these were false names and that the real ones were Townley and Undurraga, who had been involved in another murder which took place in 1973 in the southern city of Concepcion.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CALLS CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL

PA040446 Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 3 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The attorney general said tonight that the National Constituent Assembly is unconstitutional. He was discussing the suit against Legislative Act No 2 filed before the Supreme Court of Justice by former Minister of State Carlos Augusto Noriega. In a 20-page report, Attorney General Jaime Serrano Rueda stated his views on the suit, noting that the court can begin proceedings against the National Constituent Assembly.

His opinion is contained in a 20-page report that was forwarded to the Supreme Court of Justice tonight. The report says that Legislative Act No 2 creating the National Constituent Assembly is unconstitutional.

Although the court is not obliged to endorse the attorney general's views, legal observers reported tonight that it is likely that the higher court will rule against the National Constituent Assembly.

Ruling Creates Controversy

PA042213Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--A deep juridical controversy arose here today in regard to the adverse opinion issued by Attorney General Jaime Serrano Rueda in connection with the legislative act calling for a National Constituent Assembly. His opinion created excitement particularly in the country's political circles.

While outstanding lawyers and constitutional experts expressed various opinions regarding the decision of the head of the attorney general's office, the government maintained a discreet silence while awaiting the final ruling of the Supreme Court.

Constitutional expert Jaime Angulo Boza, one of the leading advocates of the Constituent Assembly, described as a legal absurdity the theory on which the attorney general based his request to the Supreme Court that it declare the legislative act unconstitutional. Angulo Boza said that the opinion of the attorney general will not lead the Supreme Court justices to ratify the thesis that they are not competent to review suits against acts which reform the constitution. The former parliamentarian said that if the Supreme Court adopts the attorney general's theses and declares the legislative act unconstitutional, it would be staging a coup d'etat and imposing a dictatorship over the laws of the country.

For his part, Cesar Castro Perdomo, another constitutional expert, said that the attorney general's position is incorrect and that the Supreme Court is not qualified to review suits against legislative acts.

The attorney general's office will issue new opinions next week concerning the legality of the legislative act that convoked the National Constituent Assembly. The office will issue a ruling concerning suits lodged with the Supreme Court by various jurists. Specifically, following the adverse ruling on the constitutionality of the assembly issued on Friday by the attorney general, the validity of the objections formally lodged by Carlos Alfonso Moreno, Alvaro Echeverri, Bernardo (Elejalde) Toro, Apolinar Diaz Calleuas, Luis Carlos Botelo, Manuel Urueta (Oyola) and Jaime Miranda will be ruled upon.

The staunchest defender of the National Constituent Assembly, former Government Minister Cornelio Reyes, today rejected the opinion issued by Attorney General Jaime Serrano Rueda in regard to the legislative act convoking the Constituent Assembly. Reyes said that the attorney general's opinion does not bind the Supreme Court and that the court has no jurisdiction to review legislative acts.

CHARGES AGAINST PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER TO BE EXAMINED

PA031210Y Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 2 Mar 78 PA

[Special report by News Director Faustino Garcia]

[Text] The extensive dossier prepared by the general attorney's office against the minister of public works was officially delivered to Accusations Commission Chairman Isaias Munoz Acosta this afternoon. As we reported this morning, the minister broke the [word indistinct] law by signing contracts outside the scope of the legal and administrative [words indistinct] pertaining to this sort of contracts.

It also seems that the Accusations Commission will not meet until Congress is convened for special sessions. A news source told me this morning that the commission (?would be convened) for special sessions. However, since it was not convened [words indistinct] by the chamber executives, it would seem that the Accusations Commission will not meet of its own accord but will have to wait for President Lopez to convene special congressional sessions, which have been ruled out for the time being. The special sessions will probably be convened in early April.

In any event, Minister of Public Works Humberto Salcedo Collantes is facing a difficult situation which the Accusations Commission will have to study and rule on as prescribed by law.

LABOR CENTRALS ANNOUNCE SUPPORT FOR STRIKERS

PA070305Y Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The four major national labor centrals today announced their full support for the striking workers of (Incolgasgrasos), General Electric and Singer. Today, the National Trade Union Council analyzed labor, social and economic problems and blamed Minister of Labor and Social Security [as heard] Oscar Montoya Montoya for ignoring the rights of the working class poor.

In an exclusive interview with this station, Tulio Cuevas, Union of Workers of Colombia [UTC] president, discussed the topics dealt with during the meeting of the National Trade Union Council.

[Cuevas--begin recording] The Labor Ministry has just declared the Singer workers' strike illegal. We feel this is an arbitrary action that will considerably harm the workers. [Words indistinct] solidarity and support for the Singer workers as well as the General Electric workers, who are still on strike as a result of the indifference of the transnational enterprises.

Second, we made preparations to appoint commissions through the regional federations of the four labor centrals to prepare for unified 1 May celebration. The UTC congress, to be held at the Jorge Eliecer Gaitan Theater, will close at 1000 on 1 May, and all its delegates will leave for Bolivar Plaza, where the workers belonging to the four labor centrals will assemble together with all other workers to mark International Labor Day.

Third, we carefully studied the workers' serious, very serious problems concerning social security. We reached the conclusion that the Social Security Service is a white elephant into which both management and labor place their money so that the government can manage it. The workers also contribute their dead bodies. There are no drugs. [Words indistinct] there is no voice to represent the service's users. There was an initial discussion of this that will continue on Monday at the [words indistinct] the last meeting, during which we will deeply delve into this subject, which, frankly, is opprobrious to the Social Security Service workers. [end recording]

POLICE, UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CLASH IN CALI

PA070333Y Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Cali--Eighty students have been arrested and an unspecified number of El Valle University students and police officers seriously injured during clashes. The incidents occurred when the police tried to clear the road from Cali to Jamundi of the barricades set up by students of the biochemical sciences school of El Valle University.

An official spokesman said that these are the most serious incidents that have taken place so far. The students threw stones and Molotov cocktails at the uniformed policemen. El Valle Governor Carlos Holguin (Tarbi) announced that he will release a communique within the next few hours. Brigade troops are now in control of the situation in the city.

AIR FORCE TO ATTACK PLANES USED IN DRUG SMUGGLING

PA051200Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1830 GMT 4 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (AFP)--The Colombian Air Force [FAC] declared war on drug smugglers by announcing today that any suspicious domestic or foreign planes in Colombia will be attacked. A communique said that the decision was made in an effort "to prevent air-space violations and to repress drug trafficking." In order to implement the decision, the FAC air operations department has asked the civil aeronautics sector to issue warnings to all pilots of domestic and international airlines. Communiques for this purpose will be delivered next week.

According to the FAC, "military planes will shoot when they locate or identify one or more military or civilian foreign or domestic planes that are violating Colombian air-space or contravening regulations or are suspected of illegal activities." The massive air activity of drug smugglers constitutes one of Colombia's great problems because the smugglers have more means at their disposal than the state's law enforcement forces, according to government agents.

This type of crime has spread into several regions in the east and west of the country, but is principally centered in the Guajira Peninsula, where runways, plantations and clandestine laboratories are frequently discovered. A report issued by a U.S. Senate commission states that 70 percent of the cocaine consumed in the United States is shipped by air from that area. The same report estimated that illegal exports of cocaine produced the equivalent of \$2 billion for drug smugglers in 1977. This is more than the total value of Colombia coffee exports for the same period (\$1.5 billion).

PCE WITHDRAWS FROM CONSTITUTIONALIST FRONT

PA061812Y Quito Radio Cadena Nacional Ecuatoriana in Spanish 1300 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Text] The Ecuadorean Conservative Party [PCE] has withdrawn from the Constitutionalist National Front but will back the presidential candidacy of Sixto Duran Ballen to whom it pledges its firm, vigorous support.

In a note sent by retired Col Rafael Armijos, PCE director general, to Dr Fabian Jaramillo, acting president of the front, the PCE explains that it will conduct its electoral campaign independently and with its own national composition. The PCE will make all efforts deemed necessary for its candidates for mayors and prefects and will run its own candidates for elections in conformity with the provisions of the recently promulgated electoral law.

The PCE notes that it will appoint national and provincial coordinators to the Central Political Bureau or similar organization which will be created to handle the presidential campaign.

BAN AGAINST BUCARAM DRAWS STATEMENT FROM PARTY

PA052019Y Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 25 Feb 78 p 7 PA

[Statement issued by National Leadership of Concentration of Popular Forces--date not given]

[Text] The base campaign being waged by journalists at the service of plutocracy has no basis in history or Ecuador's constitutional law. This is the case of a Pedro Tinto and his followers clashing against the people. According to history, Bonifaz was a man who, during his youth, proclaimed that he was a foreigner. Bucaram, born in Ecuador, married to an Ecuadorean woman, whose children are all Ecuadoreans, who has studied, worked and built a political career for himself in Ecuador, cannot conceivably be considered a man who has failed, at any time in his life, to give proof of his love for the fatherland. There is clear evidence that he understands our people and feels he is understood by them. Had this not been the case, he would not have become their leader and a candidate to the presidency of the republic. What a far cry from the very few people, who are born in our land and seek to leave, marry foreign woman, send their children abroad, invest abroad and who do not know or understand their country's problems. They are, therefore, foreigners in the country.

According to constitutional law, the political constitutions have provided that one must be Ecuadorean by birth to become president of the republic. Furthermore, for many years the laws regulating the armed forces had provided that one has to be Ecuadorean by birth to be a militaryman. It was at the beginning of 1975, that is, 3 years ago, that an amendment was introduced and the issue was raised that one had to be born of Ecuadorean parents. However, under no circumstances can this circumstance lead anyone to reach the wrong conclusion that the militarymen who lived and joined the ranks under the previous juridical regime or who are not included in it can be any less patriotic than those who are not included in it can be any less patriotic than those who joined the armed forces after the introduction of this provision in 1975.

Besides, the president of the republic does not have any rank in the armed forces. Article 117 of the 1945 Constitution, which was placed into effect by the current dictatorship, categorically states that military command and jurisdiction are only exercised through acts connected with the armed forces or with persons in active service. The new Constitution, which should already be in effect, provides that the president of the republic exercises supreme authority over the armed forces and that, in case of war, he has only political authority over them. As a matter of fact, he has this authority in his capacity as chief of state who, therefore, heads all of the country's political activities.

Consequently, to think of applying to Bucaram provisions which apply only to the military, as in categorically stated both by the 1945 Constitution and the new constitutional draft, is tantamount to contradicting clear juridical criteria and ignoring the will of the people as expressed during the referendum of 15 January.

The armed forces cannot and must not ignore the people's will if there is a real desire to establish democracy. Should they fail to do so, we can only expect and suffer a painful mockery of the Ecuadorean people, who are not ready to consent to being shunted aside.

Aquiles Rodriguez Venegas, assistant national director of Concentration of Popular Forces.

FRA CANDIDATE SAYS NO GUARANTEES EXIST FOR FREE ELECTION

PA061850Y Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 25 Feb 78 p 5 PA

[Text] Economist Abdon Calderon Munoz, presidential candidate for the Alfarist Radical Front [FRA], has declared that the "military dictatorship is putting an end to human rights and public liberties through its disqualification of certain presidential candidates from the electoral race and by maintaining the state of martial law and not restoring the sacred right of habeas corpus which constitutes one of the principal guarantees of Ecuadoreans to exercise their rights."

Elections Are Not Free

The political leader, while in Quito, was asked about various aspects of national life. He began by saying that in consequence of the issuance of the law on elections and political parties one cannot speak of totally free elections in Ecuador.

He added that "the fact that the law on elections and law on political parties has eliminated certain presidential candidates means that the dictatorship has restricted electoral liberty. Therefore, the Ecuadorean people cannot freely elect at the polls the man they choose to occupy the presidency."

Inadvisable Demands

After saying that "the fact that parties as yet not recognized by the law, such as the FRA, have had imposed on them an outlandish and unfair requirement for 30,000 signatures implies that they are obliging us to divert time and money from our participation in the electoral campaign. Dr Carlos Julio Arosemena, another presidential candidate whose participation was banned, had warned us that other maneuvers would follow, but we, I repeat, with our work, our organization and our electoral platform will overcome all obstacles encountered. Furthermore, we will maintain the hope and confidence that Galo Plaza Lasso, as president of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, will prevent the forced acceptance of the candidate favored by the government.

There Are No Guarantees

There is something which we must emphasize to Ecuadorean people. "The grotesque action by the dictatorship of deeming that the constitution will be in effect only after the president is installed in office shows that there are no constitutional guarantees or respect of human rights. Therefore, the dictatorship can do as it pleases in the electoral campaign to prevent the free activities of the participating parties. For the FRA, in our position of defense of liberty and democracy, such a dictatorial attitude makes us state precisely that nothing will deter us, that the dictatorship can do anything it pleases, but that the Ecuadorean people will hear the voice of truth of the FRA, a truth that shatters the vanity of the conceited and punishes the powerful," he concluded.

ARROYA ROBELLY TO CREATE NEW PARTY

PA012253Y Guayaquil El UNIVERSO in Spanish 23 Feb 78 p 4 PA

[Text] A new political party to be called Popular Democratic Alliance will be created by the followers of former chief of state Jose Maria Velasco Ibarra who follow the political line of national director Alfonso Arroyo Robelly.

An urgent meeting of regional and provincial directors for Guayas Province and from the rest of the country was held for this purpose. During the meeting, the national situation and various political matters were discussed.

The meeting was presided over by Alfonso Arroyo Robelly who, according to a spokesman, gave an extensive report on recent political activities in various provinces and on meetings with provincial leaders.

It was decided "that the creation of a new party is a political necessity for the Velarquist movement."

When asked if the registration of the new party would be in line with the law on political parties enacted by the Supreme Council of Government, the response given was that this depends on the meeting's results, but that the documents are ready in any case.

NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT FOR MUNICIPAL WORKERS' STRIKE

PA061900Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1523 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 6 Mar (AFP)--The indefinite strike by 5,000 municipal workers of Lima and Callao entered its fifth consecutive day without any solid solution in sight, it was announced here today. While 15,000 workers and leaders are on a hunger strike, the National Federation of Municipal Workers has rejected a proposal by the mayor, (retired) Gen Arturo Caverio, to lift the strike in exchange for the possibility of having their demands studied by the government.

The workers are demanding solutions to wage demands raised since 1976 and the reinstatement of 11,000 workers dismissed by various municipalities in the wake of the 6 February strike which lasted 18 days.

Gustavo Maratuech, under secretary general of the federation, after blaming the mayor for the strike, asked President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez to meet for dialog with the workers to find a solution to their demands. The strike has paralyzed services in 39 municipalities in greater Lima and approximately 12 in the neighboring port of Callao, which is currently offering only emergency services such as granting death or birth certificates.

TWO PARTIES ELIMINATED FROM UPCOMING ELECTIONS

PA050147Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1610 GMT 4 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 4 Mar (AFP)--The National Electoral Tribunal announced here today that the Socialist Popular Action (APS) and the Socialist Revolutionary Party (PSR) have been eliminated, thus preventing them from participating in the upcoming Peruvian elections.

The objection against the APS, a group that split from former President Fernando Belaunde's Popular Action (AP), was filed by AP Secretary General Javier Alva Orlandini, who claimed that there is confusion in connection with the names of the two organizations.

The objection against the PSR was filed by citizen Julio Rodriguez, who argued that this party had been created in an irregular manner at a time when the country was under a state of emergency. The PSR was founded by military and civilian members of Gen Juan Velasco Alvarado's administration after he was ousted. Velasco's administration is usually referred to as the "first phase" when discussed in connection with Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez' current regime.

According to PSR official Jose Maria Salcedo, the argument to eliminate his party is "absurd." He also said that "there are certain interested sectors which do not want leftwing parties to participate in the next elections" for the constituent assembly that will be in charge of drafting a new constitution.

Meanwhile, it has been announced that on Tuesday the National Electoral Tribunal will rule on the objection filed against the Peruvian Communist Party (PCP) by ret Col Hipolito Ferrecio.

The leaders of several political parties on both the right and the left have protested against the objection to the PCP, an objection which they regard as having no "legal basis."

REQUESTS FOR ELECTORAL CHANGES REJECTED

PY011850Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Mar 78 PY

[Text of Communique No 002 issued by the prime minister's Public Relations Office]

[Text] Regarding requests made by the Mineworkers Compensation Community [COCOMI] and the Socialist Popular Action Party [APS] for modification of some articles of Law No 21,995 on elections to the constituent assembly, the general secretariat of the prime minister's office informs the citizens that the armed forces revolutionary government, in accepting the opinion of the National Electoral Tribunal, has rejected these requests for the following reasons:

1. The enlargement of the constituent assembly, by 50 representatives who would be elected exclusively by local organizations through a special election system, requested by COCOMI, would imply a substantial modification of the spirit which moved the revolutionary government when it promulgated Law No 21,995 and, if the request were granted, it would create a situation contrary to the principle of equality before the law for all the groups participating in the electoral process.
2. The prolongation of deadlines for the inscription of political parties, organizations, independent groups or alliances, requested by APS, would affect the timetable of the electoral process which should be firmly maintained.

Lima, 28 February 1978. The prime minister's Public Relations Office.

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL REJECTS QUESTIONING OF PROCEDURES

PA062025Y Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 1 Mar 78 p 2 PA

[Text] The National Electoral Tribunal [JNE] emphatically reiterated yesterday that it will not enter into discussion with any political party and that it will certainly not become involved in confrontations of any type.

In one of his most vigorous speeches, Dr Ulises Montoya Manfredi, president of the JNE, said that the only prevailing will "is that of the law," and that all the members of the tribunal "are convinced that we are acting without discrimination or favoritism."

Montoya said that in the electoral process from 1963 and 1967, the same mechanisms and procedures were used as at present with regard to the verification and counting of signatures [confrontacion y depuracion de firmas].

"It is surprising, therefore," he added, that these procedures are being questioned today when even the personnel is almost exactly the same as the one that fulfilled those tasks in previous elections.

Montoya's statements were made in response to statements by the Peruvian Aprist Party (PAP) and the Popular, Student, Peasant and Worker Front (FOCEP), political organizations which question the JNE's impartiality.

With regard to the writ presented by FOCEP to revoke the suspension of their registration and to have verification of the signatures of their supporters take place in the presence of an official party representative, Montoya said that it had been rejected.

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He explained that the law does not permit the JNE to reconsider its resolutions and that, in addition, the tribunal's regulations do not permit political party representatives to be present at the verification of signatures.

Montoya said that FOCEP has not yet presented the signatures that it lacks and, like the Peruvian Reformist Democratic Party, it has until Friday, 3 March to do so.

Dr. Montoya also announced that the Socialist Revolutionary Party has been provisionally registered, since it has the support of more than the 12 departmental committees required by law.

AP NOMINATES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PA060116Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 1 Mar 78 p 5 PA

[Text] Piura, Peru--Fernando Belaunde Terry will be the Popular Action [AP] presidential candidate during the next presidential elections. He was unanimously selected on Sunday during the party's departmental convention. Precandidates for the constituent assembly were also nominated during the convention.

There were 18 proposed representatives for the constituent assembly, 10 of whom were selected. They are: Alfredo Chunga, Amador Amico, Oscar Roman, Atilio Debenedetti, Mario Dellellis, Gamaniel Rivera, Hugo Villaseca, Calixto Chunga, Victor Tassara and Jacobo Barrantes.

The departmental meeting was presided over by three members of AP's National Council---Gonzalo Carriquiry, Ernesto Olivares and Eduardo Calmell.

The Piura department convention also approved a resolution requesting the national plenum, when AP representatives get elected to the constituent assembly, to immediately call for general elections to change the public administration.

Likewise, the convention agreed to criticize the way in which the National Electoral Tribunal has been operating as it has not granted sufficient guarantees for honest elections, to support the efforts of AP Secretary General Javier Aliva Orlandini and to prepare the best possible reception in honor of Belaunde Terry when he visits Piura on 10 March.

DE LA PUENTE LEAVES FOR UNCTAD MEETING

PY031458Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Foreign Minister De la Puente Radbill will leave for Geneva at noon today to participate in the third session of the ninth special ministerial-level meeting of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development [UNCTAD] which will begin on 6 March.

De la Fuente will present in Geneva a proposal linked to the Peruvian position regarding international economic relations. Peru will propose the creation of a new international order which will help to effectively deal with the critical economic and financial situation in Peru.

The negative results of the international search for economic solutions requires profound study of the causes so that the appropriate corrective measures can be taken.

The foreign minister will travel with adviser Alfonso Rivero Monsalve.

Comments on Ecuadorean Relations

PA040253Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2343 GMT 3 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 23 Mar (AFP)--The relations between Peru and Ecuador "are going very well," stated Peruvian Foreign Relations Minister Jose de la Puente before leaving for Geneva today.

He added: "We want to maintain friendly relations with Ecuador but based on our latest communique," that is, respecting the 1942 protocol on border demarcation.

He also announced that Argentine Foreign Minister Vice Adm Oscar Montes will pay an official visit to Peru from 28 to 30 March.

COUNTRY AGAIN SELF-SUFFICIENT IN OIL

PA042252Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1540 GMT 4 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 4 Mar (AFP)--It was announced here today that after 15 years of effort and after having achieved a current daily production of 140,000 barrels of oil, Peru has once again become self-sufficient in this area.

According to the State Petroleum Agency (PETROPERU), domestic demand for this product is in the range of 126,000 barrels per day, which leaves a surplus of 14,000 barrels per day.

The increase has been possible due to the production of 40,000 barrels of oil per day by the Occidental Petroleum Company, a contractor, which has raised the Amazon jungle's total production figure to 80,000 barrels per day.

According to the report, the Amazon jungle figure has been added to the northeastern fields' current production figure of 60,000 barrels per day. Another contractor, the Belco Company, and PETROPERU itself operate in these fields.

PEREZ NOTES ECONOMIC IMPACT OF DOLLAR, OIL SITUATIONS

PA061735Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Text] The drop in the value of the dollar and the oil situation have created a serious situation for Venezuela, President Perez told the tripartite commission made up of the government, the Association of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry [FEDECAMARAS] and the Confederation of Workers of Venezuela [CTV].

The president said that the oil export situation is almost back to normal. He said that oil exports this year will be only 50,000 to 100,000 barrels a day below the estimated amount, which does not affect the country's economy.

The president said that there are reserves in other currencies if [words indistinct] the payment of much income. He said that the situation that prevailed in the oil industry in January and February is returning to normal now.

COMMUNIST VANGUARD TO SUPPORT RANGEL'S PRESIDENTIAL BID

PA061740Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Text] The Communist Vanguard Party has decided to support the presidential candidacy of Jose Vicente Rangel. The agreement was reached after 2 days of deliberation in Central Park. The debates were attended by Vanguard Party delegates from all parts of the country.

The announcement was made by Guillermo Garcia Ponce, national leader of the party, who briefly analyzed the probabilities of victory by the socialists through the candidacy of Jose Vicente Rangel.

At the closing ceremony of the Communist Vanguard Congress, the delegates were addressed by Guillermo Garcia Ponce, leader of the party; Argelia Laya, women's leader of the Movement to Socialist [MAS], and Presidential candidate Jose Vicente Rangel.

The Vanguard Congress decided to begin working immediately to promote the socialist candidate.

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M E X I C O

M 1

USSR AMBASSADOR SPEAKS ON NEUTRON BOMB

PA050144Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0122 GMT 5 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Mar (EFE)--Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Yuriy Volskiy warned today that his country will "reply" if the United States decides to manufacture the neutron bomb. Volskiy said, however, that this reply would be contrary to the Soviet attitude toward the arms race. The diplomat said: "We are ready to heed the call for disarmament." Volskiy added that the USSR is ready to dedicate to weak nations the economic resources that it is investing at present in manufacturing weapons. The ambassador said that "before disarmament talks can be started, the NATO bloc will have to give the word [tome la palabra] because several of our proposals have not met with reciprocity."

GUERRILLA GROUP ADMITS TO TERRORIST PLANS

Threats to University Officials

PA021851Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0140 GMT 2 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Oaxaca, Mexico, 2 Mar (EFE)--The People's Union guerrilla organization threatened today to continue killing officials of the local autonomous university in a "cleanup operation" by that organization. In a communique sent to a local radio station, the aforementioned guerrilla group claimed credit for last week's killing of Carlos Hernandez Chavarria, an anthropologist. The cleanup operation has begun in the university. Chavarria is dead and others will follow, the communique states. Hernandez Chavarria was secretary general of the university, controlled by a coordinating commission since leftist Felipe Martinez Soriano was not recognized as rector by university authorities and the state government. Martinez Soriano was accused by the police of having connections with the People's Union guerrillas. Members of the university board left today for the capital to demand police protection.

Group Admits to Bombings

PA062224Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1936 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Guadalajara, Mexico, 6 Mar (AFP)--The clandestine leftwing People's Union organization has taken credit for today's terrorist attacks on bank offices. The terrorist group, which has operated in Guadalajara for several years, sent a communique to the news media in which it took credit for the explosions. It said that the explosions were in protest of a national banking convention that will be held here beginning on Monday. The communique was signed by the leaders of the group: Antonio Montano, Eliezer Campos Gomez, Lidia Gonzalez Lujan and Cristobal Dominguez.

Three Detained

FLO62202Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2129 GMT 6 Mar 78 FI.

[Text] Guadalajara, Jalisco, 6 Mar (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Residents were wakened when four bombs went off last night protesting the bankers convention meeting in this capital, in the western part of the country. The terrorist group People's Union claimed responsibility for the explosions. They placed 10 explosive devices in several local banking and commercial institutions, however the army was able to defuse six of the bombs. It has been reported unofficially that three subversives were detained by the police, who have yet to estimate the damage, which appears to surpass \$1 million. On the other hand, it was reported that several subversives were able to escape by stealing a small plane from the local airport.

EDITORIAL NOTES NEED TO CONSERVE CANAL ZONE FORESTS

PA061715Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 6 Mar 78 p 4 PA

[Editorial: "What To Do With the Zone"]

[Text] Considering that despite the strong opposition of some U.S. senators, the Torrijos-Carter treaties will be ratified and our country will assume full jurisdiction and control of that portion of our national territory that is the Canal Zone, it is highly appropriate that a group of outstanding national personalities partake in a serious study and analysis of the future use of that area once the aforementioned treaties enter into effect.

The transfer of jurisdiction and authority undoubtedly involves many difficult problems, since it is not merely a matter of assuming responsibility for the normal functioning of the ports, post offices, police and fire departments, the administration of justice, sanitation, maintenance services, and so forth. There are many other aspects that must be carefully analyzed to avoid hasty improvisations, by planning ahead of time what can and must be done and what should be avoided. In this aspect, we refer particularly to the need to conserve with utmost care and vigilance the existing forest preserves.

We must not forget the passion of some persons who do not hesitate to cut down an old shade tree for timber or just to plant some rice, just as some pyromaniacs succumb to their irresistible urge to start "fires." It would be tragic if all the hydrographic basins that feed Gatun Lake and thus contribute to the normal functioning of the canal should be destroyed as those in other areas of the country have been, with the irreversible consequences of a substantial change of rainfall patterns and the resultant drop of our river levels.

When the Canal Zone reverts to Panamanian jurisdiction, we will recover certain rights which are legitimately ours and which we were deprived of for three-quarters of a century. We will also, however, assume a heavy burden of responsibilities and duties which we shall match with the necessary capability and full knowledge of what must be done and what must not be permitted.

We hope the studies underway concerning this matter of what to do with the Zone are conducted in due course and revealed to the people so that they themselves can formulate observations and recommendations that could be of great use.

PROFESSIONALS' FRONT REPUDIATES 'SLANDER CAMPAIGN'

PA040149Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Mar 78 PA

[Text] The First National Congress of the Broad Front of Professionals being held at the Justo Arosemena Palace took two steps of nationwide importance this afternoon. The first was the plenary session's approval of a resolution repudiating the infamous slander campaign against our country and our highest leader. In one of its points, the resolution states that it is a small, ultraconservative sector of the U.S. Senate that has made false charges against the Panamanian chief of government and that this type of attack on national dignity and pride is not unusual in international politics. The resolution concludes by expressing the Broad Front of Professionals' decision to continue their struggle for the consolidation of our national liberation process.

The national congress also approved the structure of the Broad Front of Professionals and selected the executive committee, composed of 11 secretariats, and a political committee, composed of 13 members. The congress, which is holding committee meetings, will close on Saturday.

MINISTER ANNOUNCES CREATION OF EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTE

PA060236Y Panama City DOMINICAL in Spanish 5 Mar 78 pp 1-A, 4-B PA

[Article by Franklin Bosquez d'Giovanni]

[Text] Presidency Minister Fernando Manfredo reported to LA REPUBLICA today the creation of an "employment institute" which will be a top level supervisory entity in charge of examining development, budget, legislative and administrative plans and programs for the purpose of operating an effective employment program.

Manfredo, who was interviewed at the Presidential Palace, stressed the existence of the erroneous concept that jobs must be created in a spontaneous manner. He added: "But that is not true."

He said that "jobs must be planned. This is the reason for the creation of the 'employment institute,' which will operate at the highest level and will indicate the road to be followed by all government institutions in the creation of jobs.

When asked why Panama, a country with tremendous economic potential, is experiencing an unemployment situation such as the current one, he replied: "We should not have unemployment in our country. What we have is a complete lack of coordination among government institutions."

Manfredo said that the unemployment rate must be about 10 percent on a national level, which is considered "very high." "The unemployment rate is higher in some cities and lower in others. With good planning the unemployment rate will be reduced to zero because, I repeat, Panama has tremendous economic potential.

Asked if the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry could carry out the duties of the so-called "employment institute," he curtly replied: "No." According to Manfredo, the Labor Ministry is an entity which carries out employment policy; it should not interpret that policy. In addition, Manfredo colorfully described the Labor Ministry as a "high-ranking corregiduria" [corregimiento official].

The presidency minister gave an example of why the "employment institute" is needed by referring to technology: "In Panama, we have increased agricultural production by 40 percent. However, unemployment in this sector has also increased as a result of the increased sophistication of technological tools and instruments. This has made the creation of the employment institute essential.

"The employment institute will rank higher than the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry. The government is fully aware of the truth of my statements, but alternatives must be examined," he said.

BRIEFS

MILK TO GUYANA--(German Meyer), general manager of the Nestle food company, has announced that Panama will export 45,000 cases of milk to Guyana. The shipment is worth 1.5 million balboas. The exports of this product will help expand our country's international markets. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 3 Mar 78 PA]

COSTA RICA

LA NACION CRITICIZES CARAZO FOR ANTI-VESCO RALLY

PA042010Y San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 1 Mar 78 p 14A PA

["Columna de Los Redactores" by Bosco Valverdei "Robert Vesco and the Political 'Show'"]

[Text] It is all right that we oppose Robert L. Vesco's nationalization and advocate his expulsion from the country. But there is a great difference between that and having President-elect Rodrigo Carazo convoke a meeting at a public plaza to show the people's repudiation of the U.S. financier's presence in our country.

The presidency is the country's most important office, and the person chosen to rule Costa Rica's destiny during the next 4 years did not have to promote a meeting of that type.

Fortunately, the event held Monday evening in El Tobogan was carried out in orderly fashion. But what explanation would Rodrigo Carazo have given Costa Ricans had there been outbreaks of violence in which "the just always pay for the sinners?"

The demonstration against Vesco was not only unnecessary but dangerous. What reason was there to run the risk of having the people turn into a mob? Carazo won the 5 February presidential election by a margin of over 50,000 votes. During his campaign he repeatedly proclaimed that he would kick Vesco out of this country. I believe that the electoral result showed that he had the support of the masses as a result of, among other things, the strong determination he displayed as a presidential candidate.

The above leads us to believe that a president elected by such a majority does not have to convoke a "plebiscite"--for we believe that is what last Monday's meeting was--before making a decision.

If Carazo truly wants to end Vesco's presence in this country, he has only to throw him out once the trials he has pending at the Supreme Court of Justice conclude. As president, he will have enough power to do it.

One must not confuse an upright attitude against what one considers wrong with a political "show," particularly when that "show" is unnecessary because the people gave their verdict almost 1 month ago.

We oppose Vesco's presence and repudiate the corruption enthroned after two Liberationist administrations. Neither do we like Carazo's attitude. If he plans to rule on the basis of demonstrations of support and if every time he has to make a controversial decision he plans to convoke a "plebiscite," he will be leading us along a very bad road.

GUATEMALA

ELECTORAL BOARDS RESUME VOTE COUNTING

PA061730Y San Jose Radic Reloj in Spanish 1645 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Excerpt] We have just received a report from Guatemala that an order has been issued to resume the vote counting. The suspension of vote counting lasted exactly 8 hours.

The municipal electoral board and the national electoral board have just concluded a meeting to hear fraud charges. It was stated that it has been decided to continue with the vote counting process and to have all irregular and fraudulent votes voided and reported to the Electoral Council.

LAUGERUD TO CALL NEW ELECTIONS IN CASE OF FRAUD

PA061423Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

[Excerpt] Guatemala City--In an interview with members of Gen Romeo Lucas' campaign committee, it was revealed that President Laugerud announced a few minutes ago that should fraud be confirmed new elections must be held.

PERALTA AZURDIA TAKES LEAD IN OFFICIAL COUNT

PA070256Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0222 GMT 7 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 6 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Col Enrique Peralta Azurdia, presidential candidate of the anticommunist National Liberation Movement, was reported to be in the lead tonight in the official counting of the votes cast during Sunday's national elections.

The Electoral Council reported that Peralta Azurdia has received a total of 131,997 votes, which puts him in first place. He is followed by Gen Romeo Lucas, candidate of the coalition of the Institutional Democratic and Revolutionary parties, who has received 129,881 votes.

According to the official vote count, Gen Ricardo Peralta Mendez, of the opposition Christian Democratic Party, is in third place with 92,995 votes.

HONDURAS

ANTIGUERRILLA OPERATION PLANNED WITH NICARAGUA

PA060338Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2352 GMT 5 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 5 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Committee of Solidarity with the Nicaraguan People reported here today that the Nicaraguan National Guard and the Honduran Army will begin a joint military operation tomorrow to repress the Sandinist guerrillas. In a communique delivered to ACAN-EFE this afternoon, the committee says that "the military operation has been named Operation Speed" and that "five to seven platoons of soldiers trained in antiguerrilla warfare as well as Honduran Army helicopters will participate in the operation."

According to the information obtained by the sympathizers of the struggle against Gen Anastasio Somoza's regime, "the military operation on the Honduran side will begin in San Fernando de la Lodoza, Paraiso Department, which is on the border with Nicaragua." According to an official communique, the Honduran Army captured three armed individuals in the same place 33 weeks ago. They identified themselves as active members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. The Honduran Army has stationed troops along the border with Nicaragua "to prevent the use of Honduran territory as a guerrilla sanctuary or a hunting ground for neighboring armies," according to an official announcement.

The communique given to ACAN-EFE states that the Committee of Solidarity with the Nicaraguan People obtained the information on the joint operation in Nicaragua. It says that "Honduran Lieutenant Colonels Leonidas Torres Arias, Domingo Alvarez and Daniel Bali Castillo participated in planning Operation Speed." The first of the officers named is the chief of military intelligence (G-2), the second is the commander of the air force and the third is the commander of the 2d Infantry Battalion (special tactical group), an antiguerrilla unit.

The document adds that the operation was coordinated on the Nicaraguan side by "National Guard officer Franklin Barahona, although this has not been confirmed. The Honduran troops will be under the command of an officer with the surname Benegas." It states that "hundreds of peasants in northern Nicaragua have begun an exodus due to the presence of numerous National Guard troops along the border with Honduras, while Honduran troops are reportedly already in Danli, Paraiso Department, ready for action." The committee says that "the orders of the Honduran soldiers are to disperse, capture and, in extreme cases, eliminate the guerrillas if they put up opposition." A committee spokesman said that "the joint Honduran-Nicaraguan military operation will be officially denounced tomorrow before the advisory council of the Honduran chief of state."

FOREIGN MINISTER ON THREE CAPTURED SANDINISTS

PA070310Y Tegucigalpa EL CRONISTA in Spanish 28 Feb 78 pp 1, 7 PA

[Excerpt] The three Sandinist youths who were captured by the Honduran Army on 14 February will not be turned over to the Anastasio Somoza regime, it has been learned from the brief statements made to EL CRONISTA by Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez yesterday.

Asked if there is any possibility that the Sandinists will be turned over to the Nicaraguan Government by the Honduran Foreign Ministry, Palma Galvez replied: "Have I turned over any of them?" He added that it is logical that the three prisoners be turned over to the Foreign Ministry but that so far he had not been notified regarding this. "I do not yet have anything official concerning this case. Policarpo Callejas, under secretary for foreign affairs, will be in charge of the case since I must leave for Mexico tomorrow," he said.

The three captured Sandinists are Oscar Benavides Lanuza, Jose Hernandez Cisne and Manuel Mairena Gutierrez.

NICARAGUA

CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONTESTS 5 FEB ELECTIONS

PA070322Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0017 GMT 7 Mar 78 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 6 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Conservative Party (PCN), the only legal opposition political group, filed a document today contesting the 5 February elections.

The document, which was submitted to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, explains the "indisputable" legal and political reasons and reveals evidence of what it describes as "traditional vices" which nullify the electoral process.

PCN National Chairman Rene Sandino Arguello said that "both in the registration process--during the four Sundays of November--and in the elections there were irregularities which were even reported by the Managua newspapers."

He added that the elections were held during a state of national emergency which resulted from serious street disturbances. The disturbances resulted in a number of dead and wounded civilians and soldiers in various cities of the country.

Prior to the elections, the PCN had requested that the elections be postponed due to the country's situation, but its request was rejected.

The ruling Nationalist Liberal Party has described the PCN's position as a political maneuver, stating that "the government maintained the peace necessary for free suffrage during the elections."

Meanwhile, the PCN continues to meet with other conservative factions in search of the complete unification of the conservative opposition to General Somoza's regime.

The final results of the municipal elections which have now been contested have not yet been released, although preliminary results indicate that the ruling Liberal Party received more than 500,000 votes while traditional Conservatism received a little over 30,000 votes.

JOURNALISTS UNION TO STRUGGLE FOR FREE JOURNALISM

PA061350Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2244 GMT 5 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Granada, Nicaragua, 5 Mar (LATIN)--The Union of Journalists of Nicaragua (UPN), which was created today in this agitated city, has announced its decision to struggle "so that free journalism can exist." It has joined the Latin American Federation of Journalists (FELAP).

The UPN was created at the first national journalists congress, named after assassinated journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, director of the newspaper LA PRENSA and a distinguished opponent of Anastasio Somoza Debayle's regime. Some 200 journalists from all over the country voiced their support for the congress decisions. Copies of a Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) communique which included "a fraternal greeting of solidarity to the first congress for the unification of professional and honest journalism in Nicaragua" were distributed among those attending the event.

In his prayer, Managua Archbishop Miguel Obanco blessed the congress and asked all information sectors and public authorities to "promote communication and respect the publication of facts and opinions."

He added that journalists must "be coherent in reporting and interpreting the news" and that they "must not allow themselves to be manipulated. They should always place their love of mankind and their desire to serve it before popularity or economic advantage."

BRIEFS

HONDURAN SUGAR INCOME--Ramon Molina Luna, general director of foreign trade, has reported that the marketing of some 70,000 tons of sugar during 1978 will yield approximately 100 million lempiras. Last year's production was 16,000 tons, which sold for 6.8 million lempiras. [San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Feb 78 p 16 PA]

GRANMA HEADLINES ETHIOPIAN VICTORY AT JIJIGA

PA070326V Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Mar 78 PA

[Text] GRANMA, the official organ of the Cuban Communist Party, today headlines the resounding victory of the Ethiopian revolutionary troops in liberating the city of Jijiga from the Somali aggressors who had held it for several months.

GRANMA notes that, according to reports received from Addis Ababa, there was great rejoicing among Ethiopians when they learned of this decisive victory of the country's revolutionary people.

The report adds that, the city of Jijiga, an important communications center and a strategic position believed to be the key to the Ogaden region, was taken in a quick and overwhelming attack early yesterday morning.

HAVANA COMMENTS ON SENATE CANAL TREATIES DEBATE

FL041844Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Mar 78 PL

[Armando Lopez Junco commentary]

[Text] The debate in the North American Senate over the new Panama Canal treaties shows the world the bare face of colonialism which the United States--at this point of the 20th century--tries to continue exercising in its traditional Latin American backyard. Moreover, the immodest publicity which the great imperialist press and the media organizations, directly or indirectly controlled by Washington, have given to the debate shows that the North American institutional crisis--whose most recent climax was the Watergate scandal and the fall of former President Nixon--is continuing.

North American President Jimmy Carter and the U.S. Congress appear to the public eye (?consigned) to a battle in which the interests of both sides are shown with absolute clarity. The subject of the debate--ratification of the Panama Canal treaties which would replace those signed by the Frenchman Phillipe Bunau-Varilla, usurping the Panamanian people's representation in 1903--began in the North American Senate on 8 February. Even before the official debate began, a great publicity campaign, initiated with repeated visits by U.S. senators and representatives to Panama, pointed out the confrontation between the two power groups--the supporters of ratification of the new treaties, headed by Carter, and the opposition, headed by Senator James Allen. Among other things, this Mr Allen has gone so far as to set up a salvation committee whose purpose is to prevent the approval of the treaties. Among other things, this committee--and it could be no other way--collects funds for his campaign.

In reality, the new treaties have a limited scope. They stipulate turning over full control of the canal to Panama in the year 2000, although they give the United States an option to build a new interoceanic route. For the Panamanian people, however, the treaties represent an important victory on the road to consolidating the isthmian country's sovereignty.

On the other hand, the fact that the new instruments stipulate the termination of U.S. military presence in the so-called Canal Zone provokes the irate reaction of the most reactionary circles in the United States who would like to perpetuate their domination over this strip of foreign independent territory. From this so-called Canal Zone, a complex of Yankee military bases operate ultratechnical equipment which controls the navigation of Polaris submarines, one of the most important pillars in Washington's nuclear strategy. Also in the zone, where they have about 11,000 U.S. military troops stationed, they operate detection equipment capable of detecting the smallest movement of ships and airplanes in a broad radius, as well as radio broadcast monitoring stations.

The North American President is defending approval of the treaties, not because he wants to lose the important enclave, but because in Carter's political philosophy this military presence could not be achieved in cases of emergency with a hostile Panamanian state whose people could be the ones to thwart this eventual possibility.

In any case, the debates in the North American Senate show that the darkest colonial mentality still persists in the imperialist sectors in the United States, and they are serving to reaffirm this concept. At the same time, the bitter opposition of the Congress to the energy legislation proposed by Carter in view of the energy crisis which threatens the United States, legislation which would hurt powerful U.S. industry and finance interests, reveals that the imperialist institutional cracks which led to Watergate and the fall of Nixon are far from disappearing from the North American scene.

GRANMA COMMENTS ON ANTI-SOMOZA STRUGGLE IN NICARAGUA

PA050404Y Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 4 Mar 78 PA

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Recently, the Nicaraguan people once again intensified their protest demonstrations against Anastasio Somoza's fascist tyranny. The principal actions in repudiation of the regime have been taking place in Managua, Matagalpa and Masaya.

The Cuban newspaper GRANMA recently published a lengthy article on Masaya in which it stressed the intense antifascist struggle currently being waged in that area. Since last year, GRANMA commented, the name of Masaya has been frequently mentioned in the world press as a place in Nicaragua that is giving a firm and decidedly combative response to the genocide being carried out by Somoza and his National Guard.

The city of Masaya and the small towns surrounding it, GRANMA added, are war zones. Anastasio Somoza's National Guard has raided homes, has murdered men, women and children, and has imprisoned hundreds of the area's residents. Violent clashes have taken place in this Nicaraguan department which has bravely resisted and responded to the tyrant's repressive actions.

Masaya has become a bastion of the struggle against Somoza and a symbol of resistance against the bloody regime that has been oppressing and exploiting the Nicaraguan people for more than 40 years. Demonstrations in protest of Chamorro's assassination, anti-Somoza demonstrations, the burning of property belonging to Somoza or his followers, and other revolutionary actions in which the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has always been present have all taken place in Masaya.

According to GRANMA, the tyranny has intensified its repression. Nicaraguan Air Force helicopters have dropped fragmentation bombs on the people of Masaya and the National Guard has indiscriminately machinegunned the most populous neighborhoods. The regime has concentrated its most ferocious attacks on the area inhabited by the Monimbo Indians and on Masaya. The people have erected barricades and are courageously confronting the enemy. Numerous children and women have died during these attacks by the repressive forces, which have elicited world protests against Anastasio Somoza's bloody regime. In a message to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, the Nicaraguan Human Rights Commission requested the organization's intervention in order to stop the regime's murderous hand.

According to GRANMA, the people of Managua, like the rest of the Nicaraguan people, will continue the struggle until Anastasio Somoza and his henchmen disappear. The Nicaraguan people have said enough to exploitation, crime, misery and starvation, and with the leadership of the FSLN they are struggling determinedly for their final liberation.

Meanwhile, the worlds' progressive and democratic forces, which firmly condemn Anastasio Somoza's regime, are demanding with increasing vigor an end to genocide in Nicaragua. History shows that despite the murderous fury of tyrants, the peoples always seize their right to life, progress and freedom. Inspired by the undying example of patriot guerrilla Augusto Cesar Sandino, the Nicaraguan people will also attain this right, for which they have been fighting for almost 50 years.

FREDDY LETTER ON YOUTH FESTIVAL, PANAMA, OTHER TOPICS

FL042305Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 4 Mar 78 FL

[Guido Garcia Inclan commentary: "Letter From Freddy"]

[Text] Dear Guido: I don't want my letters to be delayed since at every moment new stories appear and then they are put off. It has been confirmed that I will be going to Havana for the [11th World Youth and Students] Festival. I will see you. As I understand it, the festivities of the 11th Youth Festival will be glorious and, according to what you told me, Plaza [municipality], where COCO [call letters of radio station carrying commentary] is located, has been selected as the center for all the festivities. Therefore, I hope to be in the first row and hope to see many of our listeners.

If you are following the Panamanian problem, you will have noticed that many of those opposed to Carter--the president here--are trying to cause him all kinds of trouble and have even accused Torrijos' brother of being a smuggler. When the Mafia decides on something, it carries it out. Watch this closely. I am writing a book about all of this; it is called Panama.

I would like to ask you to please send me the book on the history of Radio Rebelde, and if possible, to have it signed by Luis Orlando and Jorge Enrique. Thank you.

About the refugees in this part of the world, I can tell you that every day fewer arrive. More and more are dying from disease, old age, and from bullets, from personal revenge, holdups and all the things of which you are aware.

The people of Orlando Bosch, who is now jailed by Venezuela, have made increasing threats, trying to frighten the airline companies. It is an overused system and a system which we believe Carter will not tolerate. When they begin to return these types of people to their country of origin, all of these things will end.

A strong embrace to you from Freddy.

U.S. BASES CONSTITUTE THREAT TO WORLD PEACE

PA061200Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Mar 78 PA

["Our America" commentary by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] Contrary to his political campaign promises, President Jimmy Carter during his first year in office approved the expansion of the Pentagon's military forces outside U.S. borders. Thus, in 1977--and for the first time since the Vietnam defeat--the United States increased by 27,000 men the number of troops stationed at military bases abroad.

Although the largest troop increase occurred in Western Europe, Latin America was not left out of this expansion of the U.S. military presence. The number of Yankee troops on our continent also increased last year. Fourteen thousand nine hundred of them are in the Panama Canal Zone. Another 3,800 are in Puerto Rico--where the headquarters of the U.S. naval command for the Caribbean and the Antilles is located, and 2,800 are at the Guantanamo Naval Base, which is maintained against the will of the Cuban Government and people.

In the Panama Canal Zone, which the United States converted into a training center for military actions against the peoples of Latin America, there are 14 U.S. bases. These bases have been provided with nuclear, chemical and bacteriological arms as well as planes especially designed for espionage missions.

Headquartered in that U.S. colonial enclave is the Southern Command, a mobile offensive force capable of going into action at a few hours' notice in order to intervene in any country. It was from there that U.S. troops drowned in blood the constitutionalist movement of the Dominican people in 1965. Latin American military men are trained in the Canal Zone, where they are subjected to severe psychological treatment with the objective of changing their ideas about their fatherlands and nationality, thus making them unconditional slaves of Washington's interest.

It is not strange, then, that fascist military regimes have taken over power in several countries of our continent. In the Canal Zone Pentagon officers are also in charge of training Latin American antiguerrilla troops whose goal is to suppress national liberation movements in the area.

During 1977 the United States also reinforced its bases in Puerto Rico; the bases occupy 15 percent of Puerto Rican territory. In its almost 80 years of colonial domination in Puerto Rico, U.S. imperialism has transformed that Caribbean nation into one of its most important strategic air, naval and ground forces enclaves outside the United States. Puerto Rico shares with Panama Canal Zone the not very enviable position of being in first place in importance in Washington's geopolitical military strategy in Latin America. This explains U.S. opposition to giving up its military presence in Puerto Rico and its determination to make Puerto Rico another U.S. state. NATO and Unitas exercises are also carried out in Puerto Rican waters. The Unitas maneuvers are carried out periodically by the U.S. Navy jointly with the navies of certain Latin American countries.

All these Pentagon military enclaves permanently threaten world peace and the sovereignty of the countries in the area. Their existence is repudiated by all peoples of our America.

FIDEL CASTRO CONGRATULATES BULGARIAN LEADERS

FLO40032Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, PCC Central Committee first secretary and president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, today congratulated the Bulgarian party and people on the occasion of the centennial of Bulgarian liberation from the Turkish yoke. The message is addressed to Todor Zhivkov, Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] first secretary and Council of State Chairman; and Stanko Todorov, BCP Politburo member and Council of Ministers chairman.

After stating that the triumph in 1878 represents a notable episode in the traditions of struggle of the Bulgarian people, Fidel's letter states that the fatherland of Georgi Dimitrov today goes forward on the triumphal road of building a developed socialist society. He adds that he wishes for a constant expansion of relations between the peoples, parties and governments of Cuba and Bulgaria, along with happiness and progress for the Bulgarian people and much personal health and prosperity for their leaders.

CASTILLA MAS RECEIVES HUNGARIAN TELEVISION OFFICIAL

FL031320Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Belarmino Castilla Mas, vice president of the Council of Ministers and member of the PCC Central Committee, has received Richard Nagy, chairman of the Hungarian state committee on television and member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee. The visitor was accompanied by Hungarian Ambassador to Cuba Jenő Jakus and Ana Maria (Berecz), a member of Nagy's delegation.

Participating in the meeting for the Cuban side were Comrades Jose Felipe Carneado, member of the PCC Central Committee, Nivaldo Herrera, president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television, and other Cuban officials.

15th ANNIVERSARY OF BORDER GUARDS COMMEMORATED

FL061959Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 6 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Division Gen Sergio del Valle, PCC Politburo and Council of State member and interior minister, has presided over the military ceremony in honor of the 15th anniversary of the Interior Ministry Border Guard Forces. The event was held at the national border guard school named for the glorious internationalist combatant and founder of this force, Capt Orlando Pantoja. Along with the interior minister were Col Pedro Rodriguez Peralta, chief of the General Directorate of the Border Guard forces; other members of the PCC Central Committee and vice ministers; and chiefs and officers of the Interior Ministry and the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR].

The ceremony began by reading the interior minister's order instituting the Border Guard Forces 15th Anniversary medal, which was awarded to a group of founding combatants of this force. The medal was awarded to those who, throughout these 15 years, have painstakingly, perfectly and uninterruptedly performed their duties in this important bulwark of the revolution. Several messages from political and mass organizations, FAR and Soviet border guard troops were read at the event.

Passing in front of the reviewing stands were 15 pioneers riding an equal number of motorcycles holding up red flags representing the past 15 years. They were followed by equipment used by the border guards in their valuable work.

The central remarks at the event were made by Brig Gen Jose Abrantes, Central Committee member and first vice minister of the Interior Ministry. He pointed out the profound significance of this homage--which carries the feeling of respect, affection and admiration of the people, party, commander in chief and Interior Ministry for those with whom the fatherland has entrusted such an honorable mission. He recounted the tasks carried out by the Border Guard Forces during these 15 years which continuously reveal with singular modesty and simplicity the patriotic and internationalist spirit of our people. It is an honor, he stated, which will always be part of their revolutionary record.

Brig Gen Jose Abrantes emphasized the importance of the cooperation given by the USSR, the other socialist countries and the auxiliary forces. He added that these factors, closely tied to the border combatants, have made possible this hour of success and recounting of victories. He called on the combatants of the border guards to double their efforts in the important work the revolution has given them, and he concluded:

[begin Abrantes recording] On this anniversary we send our most vibrant feelings to the border guards who are honorably carrying out the sacred internationalist duty. Our fraternal greetings goes to those who at this time, in any corner of the country, vigilantly stand at their positions. Our congratulations go to those who today have earned the Border Guard Forces 15th Anniversary. Our fraternal embrace goes to all commanders, officers, sergeants, soldiers and auxiliary forces who, by their dedication, determination and responsibility, have made possible the successes achieved. And on this date we dedicate our deepest thoughts and homage of most unforgettable remembrance to the heroic comrades who in these 15 years, and from these ranks, have given their lives so that Cuba will always be an irreducible bastion of the peoples' liberty, revolution and socialism. [applause] Eternal life to the glorious heroes of the fatherland! [applause] Long live our heroic and unselfish border guard troops! [applause, shouts of "viva"] Long live the PCC! [applause, shouts of "viva"] Long live Fidel! [applause, shouts of "viva"] Fatherland or death! [applause, shouts of "venceremos"] [end recording]

RAMIRO VALDES CHAIRS PINAR DEL RIO CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

FL041902Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1719 GMT 4 Mar 78 FL

[Text] A meeting to analyze the construction plan in Pinar del Rio Province has been held under the chairmanship of Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, PCC Politburo member and Council of State vice president. Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the PCC Central Committee and its first secretary in Pinar del Rio, attended the meeting held in the capital of Pinar del Rio.

It was reported at the meeting that the production plan assigned by the Construction Ministry to that province amounts to 14,000 pesos [as heard]. Among other matters discussed was the completion of industrial projects and the start of 26 other projects. They also approved the schools and day care centers program. In his closing remarks Ramiro Valdes said people should zealously comply with the directives issued from the higher level, for which discipline will play a principal role.

SELA OFFICIAL MEETS WITH CUBAN LEADERS

State Committee Official

FL062137Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 6 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Angel Gomez Trueba, interim minister of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, today met with Jaime Moncayo, permanent secretary of the Latin American Economic System--SELA--who is in Cuba on an official visit. Discussions were held on various aspects of Latin American cooperation in such areas as fishing, housing, fertilizer and other fields, in addition to strengthening the system.

Foreign Minister Malmierca

FL071223Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Mar 78 FL

[Excerpt] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has received in our capital Jaime Moncayo Garcia, permanent secretary of SELA, who arrived in our country at the invitation of the Cuban Government.

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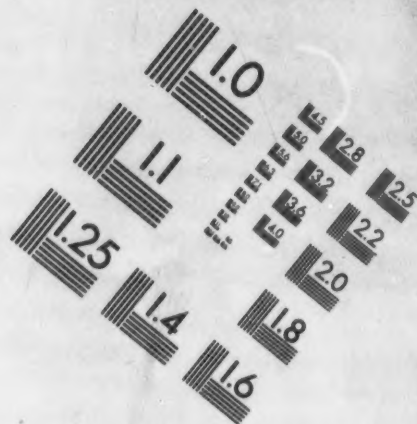
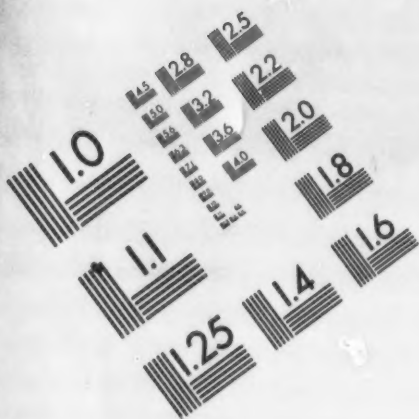
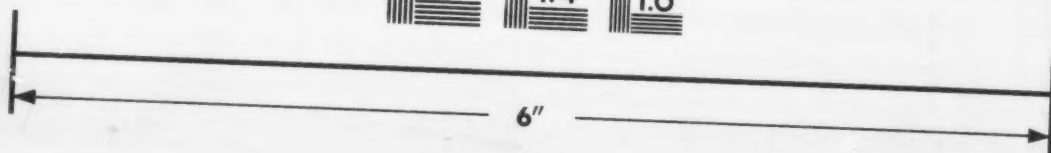
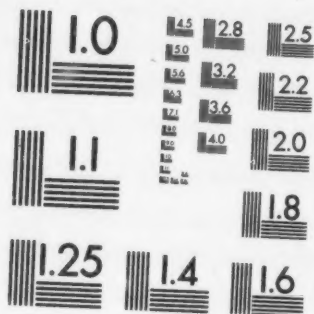


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